

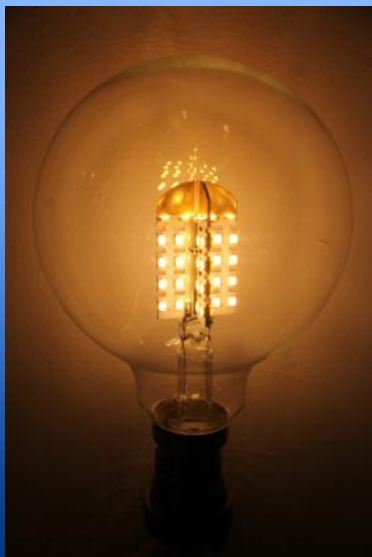


The **GARzette**

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
May 2016 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 25, Issue 5



LED Problems In Your Shack and FIELD DAY Preparation



LED NOISE

FIELD DAY



LED NOISE



LED NOISE

FIELD DAY



LED

FIELD DAY



Learn more at our next meeting!

Message from the President

I want to express special thanks for all who participated in the Georgia QSO party. We all had a great time at Harbins Park and it was a great “practice run” for Field day later this year. Congratulations to Ruth, KM4LAO for taking top CW operator and top rookie award! Top phone award goes to Bill, WB4WTN. Also special thanks for those who participated in the bake off. Cookie award goes to David, KA4KKF and brownies award to Karen, AB4NW. GARS does know how to put on a party!



“Congratulations to Ruth, KM4LAO for taking top CW operator and top rookie award! Top phone award goes to Bill, WB4WTN. Also special thanks for those who participated in the bake off.”

April brought us the 2016 North Georgia Fox hunt. We had many participants from multiple clubs in the metro area. Several teams were assembled. Some using solicited Doppler equipment and others with classic yagi antennas and HTs. The winners will soon be officially announced and awarded. Thanks to Kyle, W4KDA for arranging the hunt and many others who assisted.

Our next big event will be the National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) activation. Plans are underway to activate the Abbots Bridge unit of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area. This is located off Abbots Bridge Road/Hwy 120 between Peachtree Industrial and Medlock Bridge Road/Hwy 141. Hope to see you there on either May 7th or the “rain out” day of May 14th with setup time around 10:00 am. We will be operating at least 3 stations and making as many contacts as possible. See the website at GARS.org for more detailed information as well as many more upcoming events.

On a final note, we are looking for someone to take over the editing of the Garzette. Ray Bailey, N4GYN has worked tirelessly on this publication for many years and has made it a pre-

miere publication that hundreds of hams look forward to reading each month. The publication covers GARS events as well as educational and informative articles on Amateur Radio. It also provides a reference for contesting information, local events in the Southeast, testing schedules and much more information. It's time to give Ray a break. You don't have to do it alone but someone has to coordinate it. If you are interested in getting involved please contact Ray, myself, or any GARS officer. Ray is anxious to begin training someone right away so don't put it off. Get involved

now.

See you down the bands... and the next GARS event!

Thanks and 73's,

Rick Cobb, N4XYY

"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."

[Author Unknown]



GARS May Meeting

Two small presentations:

“Possible LED Problems In Your Shack” by W4TGA, Barry Kanne

AND

“Field-Day Preparation” by KA4KKF, David Adcock

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

7:00 pm

Sports Aviation Complex - Hangar 1

690 Airport Road

Lawrenceville, GA 30045

[Directions](#)

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GARS Communications

2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR

D-Star

WD4STR
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)
440.550 + (5 MHz)

2 Meter Repeater

147.255(+) MHz
107.2 PL Tone

6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz)
No PL tone

70 Cm Repeaters

444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone
442.100(+)
100 PL Tone

**Don't forget
to support our
advertisers at the
back of the
GARzette.**

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by e-mail to n4gyn@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via e-mail to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

The *GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: Ray Bailey—N4GYN
770-689-6620 or editor@gars.org



Member QRZ Pages

For a few months we will be featuring the QRZ page of various members of GARS.

This month we are featuring the QRZ page of :

KB9VTM - JAMES BOYD

When you click on the link below you will find this picture of him.

<http://qrz.com/lookup/kb9vtm>

Read his notes and get to know him better.
You'll be glad you did.



Here is an excerpt from his page:

"I was a stationary Engineer for the East St. Louis and Inter. Water Company for 13 years. I've also worked for North American Lighting in Salem, Illinois for nine years. They make head and tail lights for many different kinds of cars and trucks. As of January 3, 2007, I finally retired.....and its nice being retired. But not being old. . "

Watch for another featured GARS member QRZ page in next month's GARzette!

News, Press Releases, & General Interest

My name is Noah (N4OAH) and I am promoting the **Greater Nashville & Middle Tennessee HamQuest**. Our HamQuest is held in Lebanon, a short drive from Nashville Tennessee. We are located at the Wilson County Fairgrounds, home of the largest fair in the state. The **HamQuest** promises to be a successful event with technical presentations, door prizes every hour and a low admission fee.

In order to help make HamQuest 2016 a success, we are asking all area clubs to pitch in and help spread the word. We are asking you to talk to you're club about the HamQuest, post it on the club website, announce it on the ARES net, whatever medium is available. HamQuest details are below. If you have any questions or comments, you may reply to this email, contact us through our website or call at [615-549-7871](tel:615-549-7871)

73's!!!

HamQuest 2016

Website www.midtnhamquest.wordpress.com

What: Greater Nashville & Middle Tennessee HamQuest 2016

When: Saturday July 30th

Time: 8am/4pm

Location: Wilson County Fairgrounds, pageant pavilion. Entry through gate at 810 Tennessee Blvd ([Map here](#))

Talk-in freq: 147.105+, tone 156.7

Admission: \$4 (16 & under free)

Booth space: \$10 with pre registration, \$12 on the day of the event (see "[vendors](#)" page)

Tailgate space: \$5 Drawings: Every hour

--

Noah W

[615-521-5221](tel:615-521-5221)

GARS Happenings

2016 is the Centennial of the National Park Service!

In parallel with the Centennial, the National Parks On The Air (NPOTA) year long event was formed. The purpose of NPOTA is dual; to promote Amateur Radio capabilities at National Park Service Units and to promote the National Park service (NPS) centennial and heritage of the National Park System through Amateur Radio. Ham radio operators are traveling to and operating from park units in the National Park Service all year.

GARS is planning on activating the *Abbotts Bridge* unit of the *Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area* several times this year. The tentative date for our first activation is Saturday May 7th with a rain date of the 14th. We plan to arrive at the unit around 10:00 am, set up, have a late lunch around 1:00-1:30, and operate until about 5:00 pm. We hope to have 2 to 4 HF stations operating both SSB and CW, depending on the participation.

The Abbotts Bridge unit is located off the Abbotts Bridge Road/Hwy 120, between Peachtree Industrial Boulevard and Medlock Bridge Road/Hwy 141. The entrance is on the south side of the river, next to the Rock Yard. When you turn onto the gravel entrance to the Abbotts Bridge Unit keep going down the road until you see the parking lot on the left with a pavilion. If you've driven down the ramp into the Chattahoochee River, you've gone too far. There is a map on the GARS website.

73, *Ruth* - KM4LAO

For more information about the ARRL National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) event - <https://npota.arrl.org/>
NPOTA rules - <http://www.arrl.org/npota-rules/>

For more information about the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area - <https://www.nps.gov/chat/>

Here is a humorous picture of how things can go when there is a lack of planning:



More Happenings

Sixteen teams competing as individuals or representing their clubs entered The 2016 North Georgia Fox Hunt

The 2m fox was on the edge of being heard at the starting point near Roswell. The Doppler Assisted class of hunters began arriving at the site in Cumming about 45 minutes after the hunt began. Once on sight, the hunters learned that the fox was a just cross band repeater and the real fox was on 70cm. The foot chase began! Congratulations to Robert KI4SBL, Catherine KI4SBK and Patrick N4ZAX from the North Fulton Amateur Radio League for finding the fox first in the Doppler Assisted Class.

About 3 hours after the hunt began, teams from the Classic RDF Class began arriving on site. They too switched gear quickly and began hunting the 70cm fox. Congratulations Nick N0NCQ for being the first to find the fox representing his Alford Memorial Team. His teammates were Mike KK4KHS, and Mike KK4NZE, along with their non-ham guest Patrick in the Classic RDF Class.

The 2016 North Georgia Fox Hunt was great fun. GARS sponsored awards will be presented to the two teams at one of their future club meetings.

Bravo folks! Well done!

I'd like to extend a special *Thank You* to Bill WB4WTN, Dave W4DTR, and Larry AB4NX for their tireless and invaluable efforts with this adventure.

Here is a link to all the photos from the event: <https://onedrive.live.com/redir?resid=5C50807C20A4F817!119519&authkey=!AEcU1AEmiJYA9a0&ithint=folder%2cjpg>

Thanks and 73,
Kyle, W4KDA



NFARK Fox Hunt Winners



Alford Fox Hunt Winners

Coming Events

Dacula Memorial Day Parade May 30th 2016

0700 Hrs at Hebron Baptist Church in Dacula. We will be there to help setup the parade participants.
We will be finished by 1300 Hrs.



Contact [Earl, AF4FG](#) to get more information or search on this web site.
[Click here to sign up for parade. When finished simply close that window.](#)

SARA and the Multi-club Fox Hunt

Ryan, KK4OSG represented our Club in the multi-club fox hunt recently. The fox hunt was ganized by GARS, the Gwinnett County club. For those of you new to the hobby, relax, no foxes are actually killed in this fox hunt - in fact, no foxes are even disturbed. But electrons in a lot of radios are terribly inconvenienced. As is the magnetic spectrum.

In a ham radio fox hunt, a hidden transmitter is the "fox," and hams find it. Some people, such as Ryan, use hand-held directional antennas, and take bearings from several locations to triangulate the fox's position. This is known as *radio direction finding*, RDF. Others place weird looking antenna arrays on their cars and use Doppler techniques to search for the fox. Some go it alone and others work in teams. Working alone, Brian started with the others down highway 141 a good way, and successfully found the fox.



or-



Fox hunt organizer Kyle, W4KDA, tells us about the event: "Sixteen teams competing as individuals or representing their clubs entered the 2016 North Georgia Fox Hunt. The 2m fox was on the edge of being heard at the starting point near Roswell. The Doppler Assisted class of hunters began arriving at the site in Cumming about 45 minutes after the hunt began. Once on site, the hunters learned that the fox was a cross band repeater and the real fox was on 70cm. The foot chase began! Congratulations to Robert KI4SBL, Catherine KI4SBK and Patrick N4ZAX from the North Fulton Amateur Radio League for finding the fox first in the Doppler Assisted Class. About 3 hours after the hunt began, teams from the Classic RDF Class began arriving on site. They too switched gear quickly and began hunting the 70cm fox. Congratulations Nick N0NCQ for being the first to find the fox, representing his Alford Memorial Team. His teammates were Mike KK4KHS, and Mike KK4NZE, along with their non-ham guest Patrick. The 2016 North Georgia Fox Hunt was great fun. GARS-sponsored awards will be presented to the two teams at one of their future club meetings. Bravo folks! Well done! I'd like to extend a special Thank You to Bill WB4WTN, Dave W4DTR, and Larry AB4NX for their tireless and invaluable efforts with this adventure." Here is a link to all the photos from the event:

<https://onedrive.live.com/redir?resid=5C50807C20A4F817!119519&authkey=!AEcU1AEmiJYA9a0&ithint=folder%2cjpg>

Thanks much to Kyle and GARS for organizing the event. Oh, the location of the fox? In south Forsyth County, behind the playground in the Caney Preserve Park on Caney Road. That's pretty close to the Home Depot on 141.

MAY MADNESS 2016

The purpose is to get new hams comfortable talking on the air and to help us get familiar with new members and each other. If you talk to a new member you get an extra point. If you talk to an old member you may be talking to someone you don't usually hear on the air. The top ten scores will win a prize to be awarded at the June meeting.

- **Contest begins Friday May 6 at 6:00 PM and ends Sunday May 15 at 11:59 PM**
- **Only GARS members may participate**
- **Bands**
UHF VHF 2 Meters 1.25 Meters 70 cm 33 cm 23 cm Any amateur GHz freq
HF Any HF frequency where Tech class license is allowed to operate
- **Modes**
SSB (voice) FM Digital (CW is a digital mode)
Contacts may be simplex or repeater
- **Frequencies**
Any simplex frequency is allowed Any station can be worked once per band per mode (Once on simplex or repeater. These are not two separate modes)
- **Exchange**
Call Sign.— Old GARS member (OM, or New member (NM), **New Ham (NH)**, **Gars Officer/Committee Chair/Director/Trustee (Exec Committee)=(EC)**.

New members are those who have joined GARS since 6/1/15. Anyone who was a member in the past but has not been a dues paying member for at least 10 years prior to rejoining after 6/1/15 is considered a new member for purposes of this contest. (Since a new member or a **New Ham** cannot contact himself, he automatically receives 1 bonus point.)

- **Awards**
Highest overall score wins special prize...W4KLY's mounted vacuum tube!

Top Ten scores receive a unique GARS hat unique to this year's contest.
All participants who turn in a log receive a GARS patch, or decal, and a May Madness Certificate

The New Ham with the most points receives a certificate: "Hardest Working New Ham" less than 2yrs.

XYL or YL with the most points receives certificate "May Madness XYL/YL".

1st log rec'd by AB4HF with higher score than AB4HF's 2015 posted log wins special prize-W4KLY's special award.

Jeff Cutchins-GARS May Madness

AB4HF

www.HamsOnCams.com

Did You Know?

2015 HAM OF THE YEAR



Mike Smith - KK4KHS

The Alford Memorial Radio Club Ham of the Year award was presented to Mike Smith, KK4KHS, at the December Christmas Party. Mike's dedication to the club and his willingness to step up and take on any task, most of the time without even being asked, is what sets him apart from his peers. Mike is always there, right in the middle, helping out at all club functions and is a great asset to the Alford Memorial Radio Club. **Congratulations Mike** for an award well deserved!

SOTA



The 2016 annual Atlanta SOTA Seminar will take place on June 9 and 11.

The seminar is designed to help aspiring SOTA activators and chasers get started. On June 9, we will hold an online training session from 7:30 to 9:30 to prepare and plan for our activation. On June 11, we will activate Black Mountain [W4G/NG-022](#). The training is open to hams interested in activating (operating from the summit) and chasing (contacting activators from the comfort of the shack).

Topics

- How to register for SOTA
- How to post an activation alert
- How to plan an activation
- Collecting your SOTA points
- The typical SOTA QSO
- Tracking your SOTA progress
- What to pack
- Setting up and tearing down

Requirements

- The training call is open to all ham radio operators, whether you are interested in activating or chasing.
- Activators: You must be able to hike about a mile up-hill. (We'll go slowly!)
 - If you are handicapped, please contact the seminar organizer. We will arrange an accessible activation at another summit.
- You must be able carry your own supplies for a half-day outdoors. (e.g. sunscreen, water, snack)
- You do NOT need to have a radio. Bring your own or share a mic/paddle with another seminar participant.
- You must be a licensed ham radio operator.
- You must have a computer with an internet connection. (We're holding our training session via a Google Groups meeting.)
- How to Register
Email: seminar2016 [at] k4kpk.com no later than Saturday, June 4, 2016.

See you on the summits!

73 DE K4KPK / *Kevin*

Where can I find out more? K4KPK's site: <http://k4kpk.com/content/sota-menu>

Email me (K4KPK). My email address is available via <http://www.qrz.com/db/K4KPK>.

Bio: K4KPK, Kevin Kleinfelter is Georgia's first SOTA Mountain Goat. He has completed more than 175 activations. *This story is Copyright 2016 Kevin P. Kleinfelter. A non-exclusive right to redistribute in electronic or printed form is granted to amateur radio clubs operating in the metro Atlanta area. All other rights reserved.*

More fun with Ham Radio

Annual Armed Forces Day Cross-Band Communications Test Set for May 14

The Armed Forces Day Military/Amateur Radio Cross-Band Communications Test, sponsored by the US Army, Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard, will take place on Saturday, May 14. The event gets under way at 1200 UTC, with activity continuing throughout the day. Some military stations may not operate for the entire period.

"New for Armed Forces Day this year, military stations and Amateur Radio operators are authorized to directly communicate on the 60 meter interoperability channels," US Army MARS Program Manager Paul English, WD8DBY, pointed out.

This year marks the 66th Armed Forces Day ([AFD](#)), observed on May 21. The Military/Amateur Radio Cross-Band Communications Test is held earlier, in order to avoid conflicting with Dayton [Hamvention®](#).

The annual exercise is an opportunity to test two-way communication between amateur and military communicators. It features traditional military-to-amateur cross-band SSB and CW communication and offers an opportunity for radio amateurs to utilize modern military communication modes such as MIL-STD serial PSK and automatic link establishment (ALE). These tests challenge Amateur Radio operators and shortwave listeners (SWLs) to demonstrate individual technical skills and to receive recognition from military radio stations. The [complete announcement](#) -- subject to change -- is available on the US Army MARS website.

Participating military stations will transmit on selected military frequencies and listen for Amateur Radio stations on selected amateur frequencies, which the military station operator will announce. Read [more](#).

Via *The ARRL Letter* for April 28, 2016 <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/?issue=2016-04-28>

ARRL BULLETIN

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB015

ARLB015 FCC Invites Comments on Petition to Eliminate 15 dB Gain Limit on Amateur Amplifiers
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB015

ARLB015 FCC Invites Comments on Petition to Eliminate 15 dB Gain Limit on Amateur Amplifiers

The FCC has put on public notice and invited comments on a Petition for Rule Making (RM-11767), filed on behalf of an amateur amplifier distributor, which seeks to revise the Amateur Service rules regarding maximum permissible amplifier gain. Expert Linears America LLC of Magnolia, Texas, which distributes linears manufactured by SPE in Italy, wants the FCC to eliminate the 15 dB gain limitation on amateur amplifiers, spelled out in Part 97.317(a)(2). Expert asserts that there should be no gain limitation at all on amplifiers sold or used in the Amateur Service.

RM-11767 can be found on the web at,
<http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=60001536394>.

"There is no technical or regulatory reason [that] an amplifier capable of being driven to full legal output by even a fraction of a watt should not be available to Amateur Radio operators in the United States," Expert said in its Petition.

Expert maintains that the 15 dB gain limitation is an unneeded holdover from the days when amplifiers were less efficient and the FCC was attempting to rein in the use of Amateur Service amplifiers by Citizens Band operators. While the FCC proposed in its 2004 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order in WT Docket 04-140 to delete the requirement that amplifiers be designed to use a minimum of 50 W of drive power and subsequently did so, it did not further discuss the 15 dB amplification limit in the subsequent Report and Order in the docket.

The R&O is in PDF format at,
https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-149A1.pdf

Beginners Corner

What's The Frequency, Kenneth? (or whatever your name is)

I love helping new hams. I enjoy doing the New Ham Booth at the GARS Tech Fest every year. One of the most frequently asked questions I hear is, "Where can I find the frequencies to program my radio with?" Of course, this is not a major concern on the HF frequencies, but for new hams just starting out with their new portable "HT", it is.

I am a firm believer in simplex operation when possible. Of course, there is not nearly as much traffic on simplex as there is on the repeaters. There are several places to look for simplex frequencies. They vary from location to location. The national calling frequencies do not vary. They are 146.520 on VHF; 446.00 for UHF. According to the ARRL Band Plan, VHF simplex frequencies are located between 146.40 and 146.580 and 147.42 to 147.57. The UHF simplex frequencies are listed as from 445.00-447.00, and are shared with auxiliary and control links and repeaters. It is best to check with experienced hams in your local area.

Where do I find the repeater frequencies? One of the best web sites is "Repeater Book", <https://www.repeaterbook.com/>. Click on "North American Repeaters", and your state (Georgia). There will be a listing of several bands. The ones most new hams will be interested in are two meters (2 m) and 440 (70 cm). Click on those links. On the same page you will find a listing of repeaters by the nearest city. The only Gwinnett County city I found listed was Lawrenceville. That listed a few nearby repeaters. Clicking on the 2 m and 70 cm links yielded more results.

There is another amateur radio repeater database at <http://www.artscipub.com/repeaters/>. Click on the state you want (like Georgia) and there you will find a listing for the whole state. You will likely need to look at nearby communities other than your own for other nearby repeaters.

The American Radio Relay league publishes a comprehensive repeater directory about every other year. It is an excellent source for information. List-

ings are by band and state. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/> and look at the ARRL Store. Their repeater directory is currently on sale.

Doing an internet search on Atlanta area radio clubs will yield a wealth of information. Just about every club has at least two repeaters. Go to a club web site, and look around. This is usually the best place to find the most updated information about a particular repeater.

Finally, there is one other way to get a good list of active repeaters in your area. That is to ask one or two nearby hams. Find out what other hams have stored in their radios. They might even give you a printed list of what they have. If you know of a ham who has the same type of radio you have, they might even be able to clone your radio.

"Your mileage may vary." Of course if you are using a handheld radio with a whip antenna, you will not be able to contact nearly as many repeaters as your neighbor with the 100 watt base station and a 50 foot tower, but even with the most modest setup, you should be able to hit several repeaters. GARS has an excellent repeater system, thanks to a super repeater committee. So whatever your setup is, you should have many hours of talking pleasure.

73 de *David Harden*, KJ4CMY



CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?curid=7082533>

GARS Membership Page

New GARS Members in April

Barry Greene (KM4RVY)
Richard Kitz (KM4SWL)
Pramod Kumbala (KM4SWN)
Matt Wallace (KM4SWR)

New Members: 4

Total Members as of May 1, 2016
- 273-

**Join us for our weekly
breakfast gathering at
7:30 AM most Saturdays**

at

Golden Corral
2155 Riverside Parkway
Lawrenceville, GA 30043

([Directions](#))

**The following members are
celebrating birthdays
in May:**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
From All of Us at GARS

Charles Allen (N4CEA)
Timothy Atkin
William Bentley (KJ4MXM)
Charles Case
Steve Garrison (N4TTY)
Roberto Gonzalez (KA7RGR)
William Hawkins (WR1TR)
Sandra Lovelace (KF4BUW)
Gregory Mann (KM4RKT)
David Mattison (KD4PCK)
David Maynor (KW4LZ)
Delmar Mc Cue (KM4JKM)
Susan Prosser (WB1TCH)
Thaddeus Ruchalski (KK4DFM)
Robert Sanctuary (N4YWR)
Adrian (Ade) Shamblin (KJ4CUY)
Larry White (KB0BH)
Emily Wilbourn (KM4JXB)
Porter Wilbourn (KM4JXI)

GARS MEMBERSHIP

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter e-mail towards the bottom of the message.

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new e-mail address, new phone number, etc.), please e-mail the Membership Committee - membership@gars.org

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP
Committee Members: Dave Bruse, W4DTR, Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ

Net Managers Corner

Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”

GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROLLERS

GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the information out to our members. Weekly participation is needed to make our net function well. There is only a small group of very dedicated people that make the net happen each week, and we need more members to volunteer to serve as Net Control Stations (NCS) on a rotating basis.

Out of almost 300 members, there are only twelve primary people who serve as NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Norm - WA4ZXV	Kyle - W4KDA	Mitch - N0DIM
Hal - W4IGE	Don - KW4AL	Ray - N4GYN
Sandy - KJ4DRO	John - WB4QDX	Bill KK4AUA
Kevin - KK4WOG	Chuck - KK4TKJ	Charles - N4CEA

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I need 30 people to fill NCS positions. I do plan to post the schedule months in advance. Any conditions will be accommodated that you, as a rotating NCS, need to place on the scheduling of your duties. If your plans change, I can make adjustments for the schedule to work, and I will make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. As Net Manager, I also send out reminders each week to let the NCS scheduled know he or she is NCS for the next Monday night net. In short, serving as a rotating NCS is a small duty but a great contribution to the club. The “Want, Swap, Sell Information Net” begins promptly at 19:30 every Monday night and runs about 45 minutes. As a scheduled NCS, you will request the assistance of a volunteer alternate NCS each time you have Net Control. Your simple duties will be to tune in to the GARS repeater, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me at KK4TKJ@arrl.net. Sign up to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73 and see you on the Nets!

Chuck McCord. KK4TKJ Net Manager



**Don't miss the “KNOW IT ALL” Net
Wednesday nights, 8:30-9:30 pm**



We have moved to a new format. We begin with current events and announcements. Then we Introduce New Technology. Then we have check-ins and general discussion. Post net is Rag Chew format.

Jeff—AB4HF

Everyone is having great fun on this net! Come join us and become a “KNOW IT ALL”.

TIME: 8:30 every Wednesday evening on the GARS repeater - 2m 147.075 + PL 82.5

ARRL CONTESTING INFO

From ARRL Contest Calendar

>>>> NOTE: For more information click the links <<<<

June 2016

11-13 [June VHF](#)
18 [Kids Day](#)
25-26 [Field Day](#)

July 2016

9-10 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

August 2016

6-7 [August UHF](#)
20-21 [10 GHz & Up - Round 1](#)
21 [Rookie Roundup - RTTY](#)

September 2016

10-12 [September VHF](#)
17-19 [10 GHz & Up - Round 2](#)
24-25 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)

October 2016

17-21 [School Club Roundup](#)
22-23 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

November 2016

5-7 [Nov. Sweepstakes - CW](#)
19-21 [Nov. Sweepstakes - Phone](#)
19-20 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

December 2016

2-4 [160 Meter](#)
10-11 [10 Meter](#)
18 [Rookie Roundup-CW](#)



HAMFEST CALENDAR

Southeast US

05/14/2016 | [DeKalb Amateur Radio Club Tailgate](#)

Location: Fort Payne, AL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: DeKalb County Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.w4gbr.org>

06/04/2016 | [Georgia Section Convention \(Atlanta Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Marietta, GA
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Atlanta Radio Club (W4DOC) & Kenneshooshee Amateur Radio Club (W4BTI)
Website: <http://www.atlantahamfest.com>

10/15/2016 | [Al Brock Memorial Hamfest/Tailgate](#)

Location: Rome, GA
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Northwest Georgia Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://w4vo.org>

10/15/2016 | [Coastal ARS Savannah Swapmeet](#)

Location: Savannah, GA
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Coastal Amateur Radio Society
Website: http://coastalamateurradiosociety.net/wpW4LHSblog/?page_id=383

11/05/2016 | [Georgia State Convention \(Stone Mountain Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Lawrenceville, GA
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Alford Memorial Radio Club
Website: <http://www.stonemountainhamfest.com>

BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You!

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology, **Venture Crew 73 is for you.**

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- *Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.*
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- *Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30045*
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◇ *Camping*
- ◇ *Hiking*
- ◇ *Horseback Riding*
- ◇ *Shooting Sports*

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

Steve Back, WB2OGY

Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman

Phone: 770-712-9069

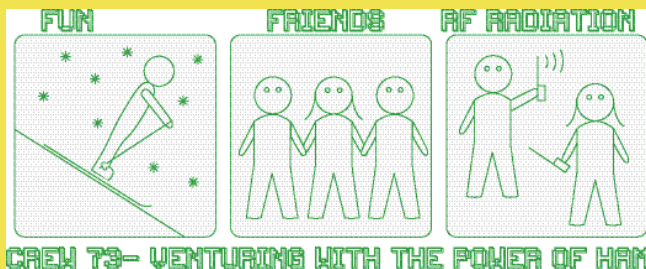
E-mail: committeechair@venturecrew73.org

Ryan Girard, KG4WPB

Venture Crew 73 Advisor

Phone: 770-508-3650

E-mail: rgirard@knights.ucf.edu



G A R S Officers and Committee Chairs

Rick Cobb, N4XYX
President



Mike Weathers, ND4V
Vice President



Nick Doemland, AB4CQ
Secretary



Sid Weaver, N4NQ
Treasurer



Nick Nikley, N0NCQ
Program Manager



Karen Albritton, KI4HPP
Membership Chair



Dave Bruse, W4DTR
Ham Exam Team Leader



David Adcock, KA4KKF
Webmaster, Field Day Chair



Dorothy Jubon, N2DLJ
Public Information Officer



Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC
TechFest Chair, Apparel Mgr, Education Chair



Ray Bailey, N4GYN
GARzette Editor



Jeff Cutchins, AB4HF
Multimedia Chair



John Ackermann, N8UR
W4GR Trustee



Eddie Foust, WD4JEM
Repeater Chair



Mike Weathers, ND4V
WAS-Checker, Historian



Chuck McCord, KK4TKJ
Net Manager,



Mike Swiderski, K4HBI
Technical Advisor



Mitch Matteau, N0DIM
Winter Field Day



Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ
QSO Party and VHF Contest Chair



DIRECTORS

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA



David Adcock, KA4KKF



Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV



EXTRA! EXTRA!

JUNE MEETING

ICE CREAM SOCIAL in the park at Harbins Park
by all of us in GARS

**Remember, Field-Day is
June 25th. and 26th**

Repeater Status

147.075 operational in Snellville
147.255 operation in Snellville
444.525 operational in Snellville
Link remote receivers being added
442.100 operational at Goshen Springs
145.590 operational at Bogan Road
6M currently down



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GARS Recurring Calendar

- ◆ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm
- ◆ Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net +
8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Wednesday at 8:30 pm: GARS Know It All Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Saturday at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville
- ◆ Second Sunday at 2:00 pm: GARS Ham Exam Session, Fire Station #24
2735 Mall of Georgia Blvd
Buford, GA 30519

APRIL MEETING MINUTES

President Rick Cobb, N4YXX, called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

First time visitors were welcomed and roundtable introductions were made. Ticket upgrades were recognized:

Attendance: 55

General Business

Sid, N4NQ, gave the treasure's report. Voting took place and the treasure's report was approved.

Karen, KI4HPP, gave the membership report: GARS has 283 members.

NOTE: Rick reminded us that our designation as a "Special Service Club" requires that 50% of membership also be an ARRL member (GARS receives a portion of the sign-up and renewal fee. see Sid, N4NQ for details)

Nick, N0NCQ, Program Manager announced that the May program will feature David, KA4KKF reviewing "Field Day Preparation", Earl, AF4FG will be talking about the "Dacula Memorial Day Parade" and Barry Kane, W4GTA will talk about "LED Problems"

Future Programs

June 14th – "Ice Cream Social"

July 12th – "Remote Control your station" by Ray Bailly, N4GYN

Event Recaps & General Updates

Georgia QSO Party

Total Contacts - 272

Top CW 90 – Ruth, KM4LAO with 90 contacts

Top Phone – Bill, WB4WTN with 65 contacts

Back-Off Winners – Karen, AB4NW (Brownies) and David, KA4KKF (Cookies)

Looking for GARzette Editor

Ray, N4GYN will be retiring in October

Program

Rick, N4XYY and Nick, N0NCQ presented Bill Perkins, KB4KFT will a certificate of appreciation for his presentation on "Flex Radio"

Upcoming Events (*for additional details go to www.GARS.org*)

Multi-club Fox Hunt – 4/16

May Madness – 5/6 – 5/15

Color Vibe Run (Stone Mountain) – 5/14 (*Contact Mike, KK4KHS for details and sign-up information*)

National Park on the Air (NPOTA) "Chattahoochee National Park - Abbots Bridge Unit" – 5/14

Satellites in the Park – 5/21

Memorial Day Parade – 5/30

Atlanta Hamfest – 6/4

Meeting concluded around 9:00pm

Nick, AB4CQ, Secretary

GARS Calendar of Events for 2016

- GARS Breakfast - Every Saturday morning
- GARS Ham Exam Session - 2nd Sunday every month
- Georgia QSO Party April 9 - 10
- North metro area Fox Hunt April - TBD
- May Madness May 6 - 15
- Satellites in the Park May 21
- Memorial Day Parade May 30
- ARC/KARC Hamfest - 1st Saturday of June
- Field Day June 25 - 26
- W4GR Spcl Event - 40th Anniv. Summer-TBA
- Maker Faire - - - - 1st Weekend of October
- Sept VHF/UHF Contest Sept 10 - 12
- Stone Mt. Hamfest November 5 & 6
- JOTA - 3rd Weekend of ... October 15

(from page 11).....ARRL Bulletin!

"Although no party advocated retention of the 15 dB limit, it remains in place today," Expert pointed out in its filing. "In the intervening years, advancements in Amateur Radio transmitter technology have led to the availability of highly compact, sophisticated low-power transmitters that require more than 15 dB of amplification to achieve maximum legal power output. Therefore, Expert seeks to remove the 15 dB limit from Part 97.317 so that Amateur Radio manufacturers and distributors will not be forced to needlessly cripple their amplifiers for sale in the United States."

Expert pointed to its Model 1.3K FA amplifier as an example of a linear "inherently capable of considerably more than 15 dB of amplification," which would make it a suitable match for low-power transceivers now on the market having output power on the order of 10 W.
NNNN
/EX

GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MAY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 7:30 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	3 6:30 - 8:00 pm GARS Exec Meeting	4 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	5	6 RELAY for LIFE Time: 7:00 Lawrenceville Fair Grounds	7 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
8 MOTHER'S DAY!	9 7:30 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	10 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Dinner at Flying Machine 7:00pm - 9:00pm GARS Meeting	11 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	12	13	14 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
15	16 7:30 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	17	18 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	19	20	21 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
22	23 MEMORIAL DAY 7:30 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	24	25 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	26	27	28 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
29	30	31				

Metro Testing Sessions	Ham Exam Results	Metro Club Meetings
<p><i>GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at http://www.arrl-ga.org.</i></p> <p>First Sunday, ODD Months 2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov) VEC: WCARS Braselton Public Utility Building 4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA Roger Gibson, WB4T (770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560 w4rlg@bellsouth.net</p> <p>First Sunday, EVEN Months 2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) VEC: WCARS Hall County EOC 470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga. Perry Roper, KO4RD (770) 536-3056</p> <p>Second Saturday 10:00 AM Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center 13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004 Ian Kahn, KM4IK E-mail: km4ik.ian@gmail.com</p> <p>Second Saturday, ODD Months VEC: ARRL 8:30 a.m. GMC Community Ctr 5325 Leon St. Stone Mountain, GA Frank Haynes, KV4SP (678) 467-3712</p> <p>Second Sunday VEC: W5YI 2 pm Fire Station #24 Mall of Georgia Boulevard Buford, GA 30519 Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR E-mail: exams@gars.org</p> <p>Third Saturday VEC: W5YI 2 pm (Except December) Lifeway Church 1654 Atlanta Highway #109 Steve Donellan, N5SMD (404) 520-0368 E-mail: n5smd@comcast.net</p> <p>(cont. next column)</p>	<p>We had a successful testing session April 10.</p> <p>There were 4 persons tested.</p> <p>2 are now new Technicians 2 upgraded to General</p> <p>Thanks to the following VE's who made this testing session a success:</p> <p>Dave Bruse, W4DTR Charles McCord, KK4TKJ Donald Bagby, KK4NJM Frank Haynes, KV4SP Donna McCord, KM4FMW Steve Back, WB2OGY</p> <p><i>73, Sid Weaver , N4NQ,</i> Co-CVE</p> <p>GARS VE Team Leader E-mail: exams@gars.org</p> <p>GARS VE Website: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS_VE_Team/</p> <p>Fourth Tuesday ARRL VEC 7 pm @ United Way Service Center 6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville Jessie Clower, KB4WFK (770) 942-6466</p> <p>Fourth Sunday 2:30 pm Georgia Tech VanLeer Elec. Building Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr. See www.w4aql.com Alexander G. Carver (404) 894-2936 acarver@ece.gatech.edu</p>	<p>First Tuesday Kennehoochee ARC Downtown Marietta Fire Station #1, Training Room 112 Haynes Street Marietta, Georgia 30060 Meeting begins at 7:00pm Talk In 146.880(-)</p> <p>First Thursday Atlanta Radio Club Georgia Red Cross HQ 1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta Meeting is at 7:30pm Talk In -146.820(-) N.E. Georgia ARC Commerce Public Library Meeting is at 6:30pm Talk In - 147.225(+) PL 123.0</p> <p>Second Monday Georgia Tech ARC Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00pm</p> <p>Second Thursday Alford Memorial Radio Club Annistown Road Baptist Church Intersection of Annistown Rd & Spain Rd Stone Mountain Dinner at 6:00pm Meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 146.760(-)</p> <p>Second Saturday North GA QRP Club Board Room of The Shepherd Center at 2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta at 10:00 AM</p> <p>Third Tuesday North Fulton Amateur Radio League Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept Alpharetta Adult Activity Center 13450 Cogburn Road Alpharetta, GA 30004 meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 145.47(-) For more, go to: http://www.gars.org/</p>

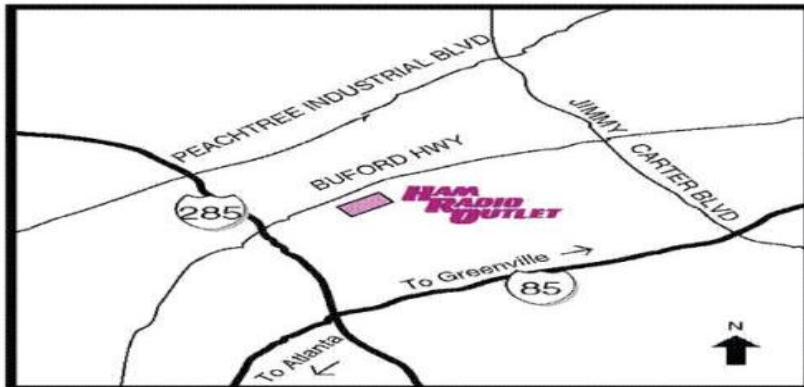
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